



Department of Computer Science Master's Programs Newsletter

Fall 2013

A Message from the DGS...

A very warm welcome to our new master's students! I hope your transition to New York City and graduate school has been smooth. Welcome back returning students! I trust your summer has been rewarding and enjoyable. As your DGS, I want to hear your ideas and feedback. Look in this newsletter for the announcement of our new "DGS Tea" events, just for this purpose.

I also invite you to freely drop in during my Monday office hour, 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm, to chat on any topics on your mind or just share your news. Here is a piece of news from a "drop in" yesterday: he was an MSCS graduate from Spring 2013 and came to tell me that he has worked sleepless the last four months in his startup. His company has been bought by venture capitalists for 30 million dollars and he is now headed to Silicon Valley to work in the new company! Remember: you can drop in even if your news is not so dramatic.

- Professor Chee Yap

Wasserman Update

[The NYU Wasserman Center for Career Development](#) is here to assist computer science students throughout all stages of the job search process, whether one is writing a resume for the first time or interviewing for a full-time job after graduation. The list below highlights some of the many opportunities and tools they provide to assist students in their professional development.

Career Development Programs for Computer Science Students

[Individual Career Counseling Appointment](#): career counselors are available to help tailor a job search strategy to best meet one's needs. They can review resumes, facilitate mock interviews and provide networking tips.

[Career-related Workshops](#): there are various workshops throughout the year, focusing on important topics, such as "Acing the Interview", "Resume and Cover Letter Writing" and "Maximizing your Job Search".

[Specialized Programming](#): these programs include career panels, site visits and [international student resources](#).

[On-Campus Recruitment \(OCR\) Program](#): available for juniors, seniors and graduate students.

[Career Fairs, Industry Expos and Hundreds of Employer Presentations](#): hundreds of employers are brought directly to campus to meet with and interview NYU students.

Virtual Career Resources for Computer Science Students

[NYU CareerNet](#): allows students to search for full-time jobs, part-time jobs and internships.

[The Mentor Network Program](#): an opportunity for students to connect with industry professionals.

[Social Media Platforms](#): LinkedIn, Twitter, Facebook, Foursquare, Wasserman blog, Pinterest, Instagram, Tumblr, Google+ and Wassertube are utilized to bring together all constituents to share information and educate NYU students in creative ways.

[Virtual career counseling and webinar platforms](#): connects NYU students across the globe to the resources available at the Wasserman Center.

NYU Wasserman

The Center for Career Development

Congratulations Graduates!

Congratulations to the 2013 Computer Science master's graduates! The 2013 graduating class was one of the largest in our program's recent history. Our students packed into Avery Fisher Hall for the GSAS commencement. As shown by the graduation picture below, the Computer Science Department was well represented at the ceremony. Congratulations to all of our graduates! The department wishes you well in all of your future endeavors and hopes that you keep in touch with the department, Courant and NYU. If you haven't already filled out your [Courant Exit Survey](#), please do so. We value your insights and thoughts. Also, filling out the survey will get you added to our departmental mailing list, which is used to invite alumni to upcoming departmental events. The department, and especially the current students, loves to see alumni at our events!



MACS Update

The Master's Association in Computer Science (MACS), founded in 2008, is committed to building a strong community for the master's students in the Computer Science Department. Their mission is to enrich the students' educational experience through professional development, networking opportunities, interdisciplinary interactions and partnerships with other student organizations at NYU.

Last academic year was very successful for MACS and included the following successful events:

- ◆ MSCS & MSIS alumni event
- ◆ Ernst and Young information/networking event
- ◆ MACS happy hours
- ◆ Google campus tour and tech talk
- ◆ Tech@NYU startup event
- ◆ Graduation group photo session

Currently, MACS is busy planning events for the 2013-2014 academic year. Upcoming events will include elections for new board members, guidance on resume writing and interview skills, an alumni networking event, programming and case competitions, social events and more! Stay tuned and be sure to visit the [MACS website](#) for specific details.

If you need any assistance, have any concerns, are interested in becoming a MACS board member or have an idea to share, please contact MACS at macs@cs.nyu.edu.

All master's students are encouraged to sign up for the [MACS mailing list](#), which is the main way information related to MACS is shared.





Alumni Spotlight: Emily Morton-Owens



Emily Morton-Owens, a 2012 MSCS graduate, had a unique path towards our master's program. Emily received her BA from Yale, in German Studies. She then received an MS in Library and Information Science from Drexel University. At the time of applying to the MSCS program, Emily worked at the NYU Health Science Libraries, as the Web Services Librarian. At first, Emily wasn't sure if the MSCS program was the right choice for her. She was considering applying to various programs at NYU. With a humanities background, she knew the MSCS program would be the most challenging program for her to pursue. In the end, she decided she was up for the challenge and is very glad that she made the choice.

The appeal of the MSCS program had a lot to do with Emily's view of what's next for libraries. Emily explains that computer scientists have been working hard to address information retrieval and management problems that are relevant to digital libraries. She wanted not only to understand those solutions, but also to contribute to the solutions.

Emily started out in our Preparatory Accelerated Program (PAC Program). She found the program challenging and rewarding. She continued on to her graduate computer science courses and excelled in all of her coursework.

Emily was awarded the 2013 Master's Thesis Prize, awarded to the best computer science master's thesis. Her thesis involved information extraction from Wikipedia. She identified biographical articles, extracted dates and place names and then made an interface that allows the user to search a geographical area and a range of dates to see "who was where when". Her interest in the area grew partly out of her experiences in the library and through conversations with librarians about the lack of such a resource.

After graduation, Emily accepted a job offer from the Seattle Public Library, working as the Library Applications and Systems Manager, responsible for the team working on their Integrated Library System, catalog, SharePoint, mobile apps and more. This position was a substantial promotion for Emily. In essence, she now serves in a dual role able to draw on her librarian and technology experience, making her a unique and much sought after candidate.

When asked what advice Emily would give to current students, she stressed the importance of identifying faculty in one's area of interest and getting to know them. Emily's first non-PAC course was with Professor Ernie Davis. She went on to take numerous courses with him and had him as her thesis advisor. She feels she benefitted greatly from getting to work with a faculty member who was able to get to know her well and build a rapport with her.



Graduate Student Reception

The Computer Science Department cordially invites our master's and PhD students, alumni, faculty and staff to the Fall 2013 Computer Science Graduate Student Reception. The reception will be held on Wednesday, October 9th from 5:30 pm until 7:30 pm in the 13th floor lounge of Warren Weaver Hall. It will be a wonderful opportunity to mingle with students, alumni, faculty and staff in the Computer Science Department. Refreshments will be served. We hope you will be able to join us for this festive kick off to the fall semester!

OGS Workshop

The Office of Global Services (OGS) will be hosting a workshop for master's students in the Computer Science Department regarding off-campus employment options for F-1 international students.

There will be an overview explaining the types of authorization students may be eligible for (OPT & CPT) and the rules surrounding each type. Students will also learn about the application process and the documents needed to ensure one is able to work. The workshop will be facilitated by Melissa Zuroff of OGS. The event will take place on Thursday, October 10th from 12:30 pm – 1:45 pm in room 109 of Warren Weaver Hall. We strongly recommend that all F-1 students interested in working in the U.S. attend the workshop.



The GSAS Fall Soirée

The GSAS Master's College invites all master's students to kick off the academic year at their annual GSAS Fall Soirée. This wine and cheese reception will be held on Friday, September 6th from 6:00 pm to 8:30 pm in rooms 405-406 of the Kimmel Center, 60 Washington Square South. This event provides a great opportunity for students to have a fun night, while also networking with students across GSAS. To RSVP, email gsas.masterscollege.rsvp@nyu.edu with your name and the name of the event.

The GSAS Master's College provides access to information, advisement and resources for prospective and current master's students, as they focus on their scholarly, professional, and personal development. They have [events](#) for students throughout the year so be sure to mark your calendar for them. You can follow them on [Facebook](#) and twitter (@NYU_GSAS_MA).

Upcoming Fairs

Get your resumes ready! NYU has two upcoming fall career fairs.

2013 Fall Job & Internship Fair

Date: Thursday, September 12th 11am - 3pm

Location: Kimmel Center, 60 Washington Square South check-in on floors 1 (by elevators) & 2 (top of the grand staircase)

Description: All NYU students are invited to attend the largest fair of the year. Companies will be searching to fill part-time, full-time and internship positions. NYU representatives will also be attending to fill on campus work study positions.

2013 Fall Engineering & Technology Career Fair at NYU-Poly

Date: Thursday, September 19th from 11am – 3pm

Location: NYU-Poly Jacobs Gymnasium, 6 Metro Tech Center Brooklyn, NY

Description: NYU students are invited to this event at the NYU-Poly campus. There will be a large number of employers from diverse industries searching to fill full-time, part-time and internship positions.

Understanding Academic Integrity

The Computer Science Department holds academic integrity as a core principle of education. It is imperative that students uphold academic integrity in all of their work. Students should review the [Academic Integrity Policy](#) and ask their professors if they have any questions as to what is permitted.

Often, students will conduct research on the internet to gain a greater understanding on a topic. It is fine for students to research topics for the betterment of their learning. However, students cannot take information from the internet and submit it as their own work. Whether it is code or a written composition, everything you submit must be your own ideas and work. If you take code or text from the internet and submit it as your own, you are violating the academic integrity policy. Also, you cannot simply change a few words and submit the work as your own. That too violates the policy.

Another important thing students must do is to find out if collaboration is allowed in a class. If collaboration is not allowed, then a student cannot work in groups or with another student on lab assignments or homework. One should not ask someone to debug a program, check one's work or collaborate in any way. Everything you submit needs to be done on your own and be your own thoughts and ideas. If you do not follow that, you will violate the academic integrity policy. When an instructor does allow collaboration, students must acknowledge and cite the collaboration in their work. If you do not properly cite the work of others, you violate the policy.

If students are found guilty of violating the Academic Integrity Policy, they will receive a penalty from the department, which can range from a lowered course grade, failing the course or termination from the program. Be sure to understand the Academic Integrity Policy and what the policies of your classes are. Remember, ignorance of the rules does not justify breaking the rules.



DGS Tea



Starting this Fall 2013 semester, the DGS is introducing a new program to increase his interactions with the master's students. This new initiative is the "DGS Tea". The DGS will be hosting this event a few times a semester. All master's students in the Computer Science Department are invited to attend. It will provide an informal setting for students to interact with the DGS and with each other. Students are encouraged to share their thoughts, concerns and suggestions with the DGS to help make our graduate programs and the student experience an even better one for all.

The first DGS Tea will be held on Wednesday, October 2nd from 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm in the 13th floor lounge at Warren Weaver Hall. Refreshments will be served. We look forward to creating this new tradition with our master's students!

iNVENT U!

NYU-Poly has launched a new first year student program open to all STEM students across NYU, called **iNVENT U!** This first year career development program is designed to help students discover their passions, explore their interests, build experience for their resumes and design their futures.

Students can find out more about specific events by logging into their NYU CareerNet accounts and searching for "iNVENTU" under the "Seminar Tab". Events will be added throughout the semester. Be sure to take advantage of this new program and all it has to offer!

Now Hiring!

The Computer Science Department is currently looking to fill various on campus jobs for the Fall 2013 semester. The department is hiring graders and tutors for various courses in the undergraduate program. The department is also looking to hire graders for many graduate level courses. If you are interested in applying for a position for an undergraduate course, please contact Romeo Kumar at kumar@cs.nyu.edu. If you are interested in applying for a position for a graduate level course, please contact Katie Laugel at laugel@cs.nyu.edu. The department hopes to fill the positions as soon as possible so if you are interested be sure to contact them immediately.

All departmental positions are advertised on the [opportunities mailing list](#). If you have not signed up for the mailing list, be sure to do so, as we advertise other on-campus and off-campus opportunities on there as well.



Congratulations to our Students!



- ❖ Zhongdi Luo was awarded the 2013 MS Thesis Fellowship.
- ❖ Zhuoheng Yang was named the 2013 NYU Courant Institute Hedwig Kurzbart Master's Fellow.
- ❖ Alexander Halter was named the 2013 NYU Courant Institute M. Michael Waller Master's Fellow.
- ❖ Lisheng Fu was named the 2013 NYU Courant Institute MSCS Master's Fellow.
- ❖ Yiran Mao was named the 2013 NYU Courant Institute MSIS Master's Fellow.
- ❖ Emily Morton-Owens was awarded the 2013 Master's Thesis Prize.
- ❖ Lin Shi were named the 2013 Matthew Smosna Prize winners.
- ❖ Lan Huo, Han Li and Nisha Raman were selected as participants for the 2013 Grace Hopper Conference.

The Computer Science Master's Programs at The Courant Institute of Mathematical Sciences
<http://cs.nyu.edu/web/Academic/Graduate/index.html#MS>

Comments or suggestions for this newsletter can be addressed to Jennifer Conlan Darlington at conlan@cs.nyu.edu